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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: Nobutoshi CHIGIRA §

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Conf. No.: Not Yet Assigned § Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

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Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned § Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

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Filing Date: Herewith § Attorney Docket No.: 9448-151US

(G0316US)

Title: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Enclosed are copies of each of the documents listed on the attached Information Disclosure Citation Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or B, which may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art, nor as an admission against interest in any manner.

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It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and/or B be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed document(s) be cited in the issued patent.

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Respectfully submitted,

Nobutoshi CHIGIRA

February 24, 2004 (Date)

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Form PTO/SB/08A				Complete if Known	
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE				Filing Date	Herewith
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Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	9448-151US (G0316US)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Exr Initials	U.S. Patent Docum		Name of First Inventor of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY	
	Number	Kind Code (if known)			

			FOREIGN PATE	NT DOCUMENTS		
		Foreign Patent Docum	ent	Name of Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY	T,
Exr Initials	Country Code	Number	Kind Code (if known)			
	JP	05-244418	A	Ricoh Co Ltd	09-1993	*X
				*Abstract Only		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
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